

STATE SENATOR • MARK SCHAUER • 19TH DISTRICT

Schauer Press Release



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JACKSON COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY RECEIVES \$500,000 FOR NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

LANSING – Senator Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek) announced today that the Community Action Agency, in partnership with the City of Jackson, has been awarded \$500,000 from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) to revitalize the Partnership Park Neighborhood, located adjacent to downtown Jackson’s central business district.

“I am pleased that the state has recognized the collaborative commitment of the City of Jackson and the Community Action Agency to building strong, healthy neighborhoods,” said Schauer. “This grant will help revitalize an area critical to the economic success of the community.”

“The multi year plan for the project has the goal of making Partnership Park a neighborhood of choice by increasing home ownership, promoting new development, improving rental property and preserving identified historic architecture,” said Jackson Mayor Marty Griffin. “The City is committed to revitalizing this neighborhood.”

Funds, which will be matched by the City of Jackson, will be used for public improvements such as street lighting, tree planting and development of a “gateway” to the neighborhood; beautification activities such as house painting programs, neighborhood clean up and alley improvements; as well as homeowner rehabilitation and rental rehabilitation. The awarded funds are part of a comprehensive revitalization project to assist the current residents of Partnership Park in their neighborhood improvement efforts.

Judy DuPuis, City Council representative for the 5th Ward said, “Words cannot express how invaluable this injection of money and commitment by MSHDA and Community Action Agency are to the 5th Ward area and the City of Jackson. I am very excited to be a part of this project.”

Wanda Beavers, member and past President of the Partnership Park Neighborhood Association was pleased about the growing commitment for this project, “For every one person shown the way, two will follow.”

Jay Cummings, Pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ located on Mechanic Street in the neighborhood, agrees the revitalization movement is exciting. St. John's recently completed work on a new addition to the church. He said, "This is a spark to reignite the fire in us."

In addition to the City of Jackson, partners in this project include the Partnership Park Neighborhood Association, Fifth Third Bank, United Way of Jackson County, Great Lakes Capital Fund, St. John's United Church of Christ, Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Canaan Land Temple, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Habitat for Humanity and Sterling Group, Inc.

Marsha Kreucher, CEO of Community Action Agency added "The neighborhood has worked so hard; the partners are committed. We're honored to be part of the effort."

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Mark Schauer is the Senate Democratic Floor Leader. He represents the 19th Senate District, which includes all of Calhoun County and most of Jackson County.